

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 PM-04 L-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05 AID-05 EB-07 /046 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2964

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AR

SUBJECT: DR. MANUEL GUILLERMO LUIS ARAUZ CASTEX, NEW GOA FOREIGN  
MINISTER

REF: EMBASSY-OPCENTER TELCON OCTOBER 1

1. EARLY EVENING OCTOBER 1 GOA ANNOUNCED THAT  
MANUEL ARAUZ CASTEX WOULD BE SWORN IN NOON OCTOBER 2 AS  
FOREIGN MINISTER, SUCCEEDING ANGEL ROBLEDO, WHO WILL REMAIN  
AS INTERIOR MINISTER.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT CAUGHT POLITICAL OBSERVERS TOTALLY BY SURPRISE.  
ARAUZ-CASTEX, WHOSE FORMAL BIO DATA IS CONTAINED BELOW, IS  
COMPLETE POLITICAL UNKNOWN. SHORTLY AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT WAS  
MADE, AMBASSADOR HILL, AT RECEPTION OFFERED BY SYRIAN EMBASSY,  
FOUND THAT NONE OF AMBASSADORS IN CORPS OR EVEN FORMER FOREIGN  
MINISTER VIGNES, WHO ATTENDED RECEPTION, HAS EVER EVEN HEARD  
OF ARAUZ-CASTEX'S NAME. EMBOFF CALLED WELL-INFORMED LA OPINION  
COLUMNIST HERIBERTO KAHN SEEKING INFORMATION ON ARAUZ CASTEX'S  
POLITICAL ORIENTATION AND WAS TOLD TO "CALL BACK IN AN HOUR  
AS WE'RE ALMOST SURE SOMEBODY IN THE BUILDING MUST KNOW  
SOMETHING ABOUT HIM." LATER IN THE EVENING KAHN REPORTED  
THAT AS BEST HIS SOURCES COULD DETERMINE ARAUZ CASTEX COULD  
BE DESCRIBED AS MODERATE CATHOLIC NATIONALIST WITH "ARISTOCRA-  
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TIC" LEANINGS.

3. NEBULOUSNESS OF ABOVE DESCRIPTION AND LACK OF POLITICAL COMMENTARY IN THIS MORNINGS PRESS UNDERSCORE FACT THAT FOR REASONS NOT YET CLEAR GOVERNMENT CHOSE TO PLACE COMPLETE UNKNOWN IN FOREIGN MINISTRY.

4. COMMENT: ARAUZ CASTEX'S LEGAL BACKGROUND IS QUITE IMPRESSIVE AND HE IS A HIGHLY RESPECTED MEMBER OF THE BAR. THERE IS SOME SPECULATION, WHICH WE CANNOT CONFIRM, THAT ARAUZ CASTEX OWES HIS APPOINTMENT TO HIS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH INTERIM PRESIDENT LUDER. EMBASSY ENDEAVORING TO DEVELOP MORE BIO INFORMATION ON ARAUZ CASTEX AND WILL REPORT ANY NEW INFORMATION TO WASHINGTON PROMPTLY.

5. BIO DATA: DR. MANUEL GUILLERMO LUIS ARAUZ CASTEX, BORN FEBRUARY 18, 1915, GRADUATED UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES WITH A DEGREE IN JURISPRUDENCE. ARAUZ CASTEX HAS SPENT MOST OF HIS CAREER WORKING IN THE LEGAL FIELD, EITHER IN THE COURTS OR AS A PROFESSOR. HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE 1973 ADVISORY COMMISSION TO PLANNING COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL JUSTICIALISTA MOVEMENT. FROM JUNE 1973 TO AUGUST 1975 HE SERVED AS A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE. IN ADDITION BEING THE AUTHOR OF VARIOUS BOOKS, ON CIVIL LAW, HE HAS BEEN AN ARGENTINE REPRESENTATIVE TO SEVERAL CONGRESSES IN ARGENTINA AND OTHER COUNTRIES. ARAUZ CASTEX AND WIFE, TEODOSIA O'CONNOR, HAVE FOUR CHILDREN.  
HILL

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## Message Attributes

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**Subject:** DR. MANUEL GUILLERMO LUIS ARAUZ CASTEX, NEW GOA FOREIGN MINISTER  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, AR, (ARAUZ CASTEX, MANUEL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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